



~ Lesson #16 ~

God's Money In My Purse

When Christ began His ministry in Jerusalem, one of the first things He did was to drive the money changers out of the temple. Three and a half years later, as He neared the end of His ministry, the money changers had returned to the temple. Notice what the Bible says Christ did: “And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the money changers, and seats of them that sold doves, and said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.” [Matthew 21:12, 13](#).

Not long ago a newspaper reported that a large church found itself short of operating funds. The church devised a most ingenious scheme to raise the needed funds. It had printed raffle tickets and sold chances on a case of liquor. One member, after having been taught how to gamble by the church, became the proud possessor of a case of liquor, by which he could become intoxicated.

Some defend such practices, rationalizing that they are necessary in order to finance the preaching of the gospel. It would not be necessary to stoop to such practices if we would study the Bible and follow God's plan for giving the gospel.

THE BIBLE SAYS

1. What is God's plan for providing for His work? Malachi 3:10

The Bible Says: _____

2. How did Abraham show that he was acquainted with the tithing system? Genesis 14:18-20

The Bible Says: _____

Note: Hebrews 7:1, 2 also tells us that Abraham gave a tenth of all. The tithe is the tenth.

3. What portion of his income did Jacob promise God for blessings received? Genesis 28:20-22

The Bible Says: _____

4. For what purpose was the tithe to be used during the days of ancient Israel? Numbers 18:21, 24

The Bible Says: _____

5. To Whom does the tithe belong? Leviticus 27:30, 32

The Bible Says: _____

6. Upon what basis does God claim the tithe as rightfully His? Psalms 24:1; Psalm 50:10-12

The Bible Says: _____

7. Who gives us the ability to earn a living? Deuteronomy 8:18

The Bible Says: _____

8. What should be our response to the Lord for all that He has entrusted to us? Proverbs 3:9, 10

The Bible Says: _____

9. How did Jesus give His approval of the Bible tithing plan? Matthew 23:23

The Bible Says: _____

Note: Jesus tells us that we “ought” to give God a faithful tithe.

10. How does Paul say the Christian minister is to be supported? I Corinthians 9:13, 14

The Bible Says: _____

11. What does a man do when he withholds tithe and offerings from God? Malachi 3:8, 9

The Bible Says: _____

12. What blessings does God promise to those who will be faithful in recognizing His ownership? Malachi 3:10, 11

The Bible Says: _____

13. When are we to think of God and our obligation to Him?

[Matthew 6:33](#)

The Bible Says: _____

14. How will God reward the liberal giver? [Luke 6:38](#)

The Bible Says: _____

15. Where does Jesus advise us to deposit our treasures?

[Matthew 6:19-21](#)

The Bible Says: _____

Thousands of stories could be told about those who have tried God’s plan and who have discovered that God’s promises are sure. A farmer had always been faithful in returning to God a tithe of his income. One day he saw a dark cloud of locusts in the sky and knew that it was headed toward his farm. If the locusts ate his crop he faced financial ruin. With his family gathered about him that evening, he reminded God of the promise in [Malachi 3:10, 11](#). The family went to bed that night and slept secure in the knowledge that their heavenly Father never sleeps, but watches over His own.

The next morning the farmer arose to examine his fields. He discovered that the locusts had eaten everything up to his fences on every side. Not a green stem was left on the other side, but God had kept His promise and had rewarded the farmer’s faith by protecting his crop from the locusts.

As you meditate upon this subject, pause first to count your many blessings. Remember that every good and perfect gift comes from God. With your heart full and overflowing with gratitude, why not check “yes” after each question?

Do you desire to enter partnership with God? yes

Would you desire prayer? yes

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